

**Bat Survey and Datalogger Replacement
Papoose Cave
November 2014**

Cave Name: Papoose Cave

Location: Nez Perce National Forest, near Riggins, Idaho

HOBO Datalogger SN#: 10130216 (retrieved) 10503071 (deployed)

Temperature (dry): 39.5 to 40 degrees F (4.2 to 4.4 C)

Approx. HOBO elevation: 5057 feet MSL (1541 m)

Participants: Daryl Greaser, Brian Gindling, Schuyler Jorgenson, Pete Smith, Rebecca Richter

Total time in cave: 16 hours on two trips

Total volunteer hours: 64 hours

Bat observations: 44 bats were observed roosting primarily in clusters in the Big Room. Surface temperature was recorded at 39.5 to 40 degrees F (4.2 to 4.4 C). Due to the ceiling height, steam, and lack of adequate camera equipment, no images were obtained. No bats were observed elsewhere in the cave.

Narrative:

USFWS-recommended decontamination procedures are observed.

Due to deep snow conditions, chains were required on the approach to the parking area. The handline that facilitates down-climbing the first cliff band was buried under ice and snow, so we elected to rig a short rappel over the vertical cliff section which proved useful. After our first trip most of us continued out of the cave, up the rope climb and to our vehicles as the outside temperature was only 23 degrees F.

On day one we traveled to the Sand Room and then up to the Big Room from there. We did not utilize the upper entrance on this trip. All bats were observed here. The datalogger was retrieved. Following our return to the Sand Room we traversed Satori, Upper Satori, and the Bluewater Extension to the Formation Room, observing no bats.

On day two we traveled via the Sand Room, Astle and Gargoyle Passages and noted a remarkable amount of guano in the upper levels but no bats, perhaps an indication of a significant summer roost? Perhaps this warrants further investigation as this has not been mentioned in literature available to the author. We deployed a different datalogger between the first and second rope drops from the main entrance, on the left side going into the cave, where solitary bats have been observed. The device is in the open and is obvious.

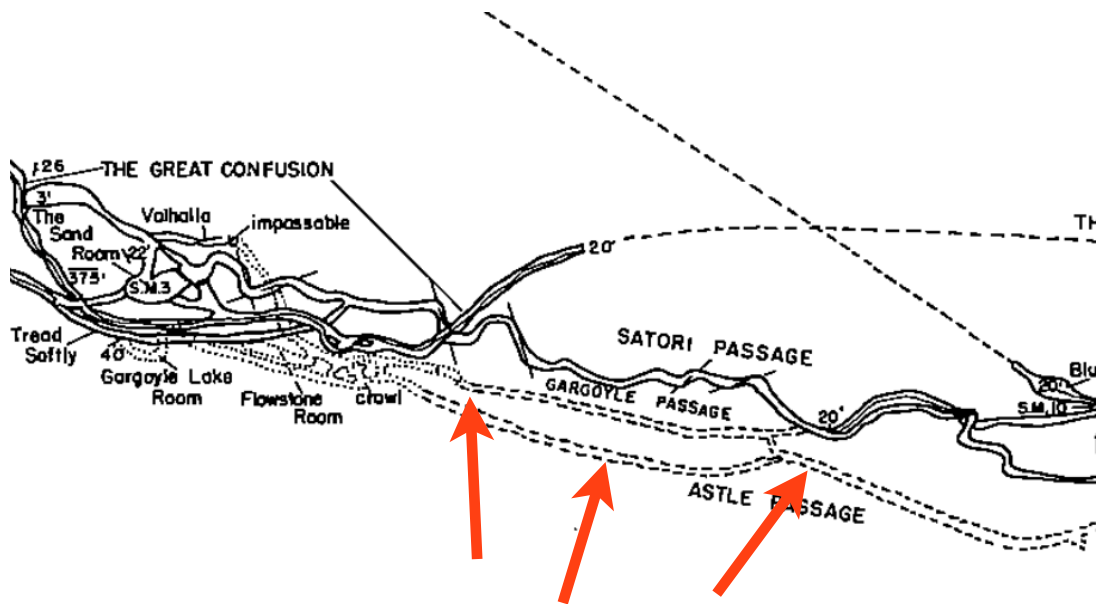
Reported by:

Daryl Greaser

Missoula, Montana

406-207-6226

caverpilot@gmail.com



A large amount of guano was discovered in the area indicated by the red arrows.

